

EXES



⊗ THE STASIS GALLERY,
OUTSIDE SPACE AND TIME...

BRACE
YOURSELF, HEATHER.
YOU ARE IN FOR A
SHOCK...

DESTROY ALL MONSTERS

PART I OF III

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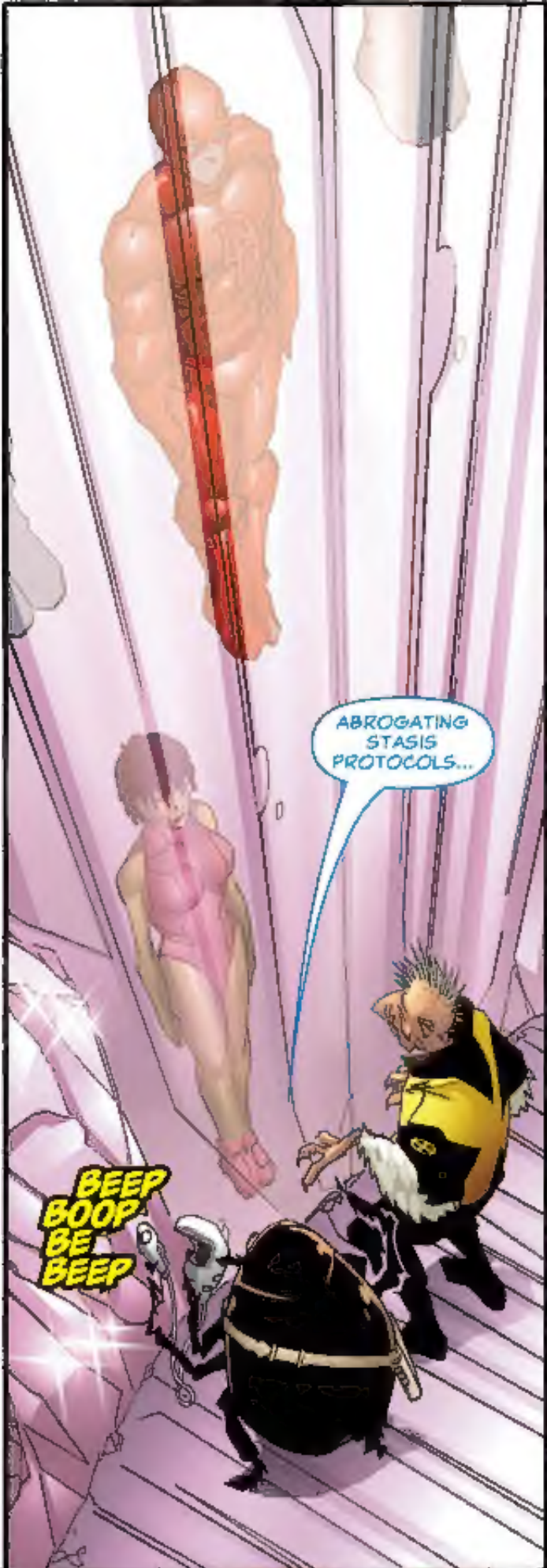
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⊗ A SHORT WALK AND A QUICK EXPLANATION LATER...

...AND THIS IS THE INFIRMARY. THEY DIDN'T HAVE ONE BEFORE, BUT WE MADE THEM SET IT UP.

THE TIMEBREAKERS HAVE DONE PRETTY MUCH ANYTHING WE ASK SINCE WE SAVED THEM FROM HYPERION.

GOOD TO SEE YOU UP AND ABOUT, HEATHER.

WISH I COULD SAY THE SAME FOR YOU. HOW'D IT HAPPEN, CAL?

I FLEW, TOP-SPEED, INTO THE PROVERBIAL IMMOVABLE OBJECT. I'VE BEEN AFRAID TO TRANSMUTE BACK TO FLESH EVER SINCE.

SMART MOVE... BUT YOU CAN'T STAY LIKE THIS FOREVER, EITHER.

IS HE...?

MORPH HASN'T MOVED OR RESPONDED SINCE HYPERION BURNED HIM WITH HIS FLASH-VISION. HE'S GENERATING BODY HEAT, BUT NO VITAL SIGNS BEYOND THAT.

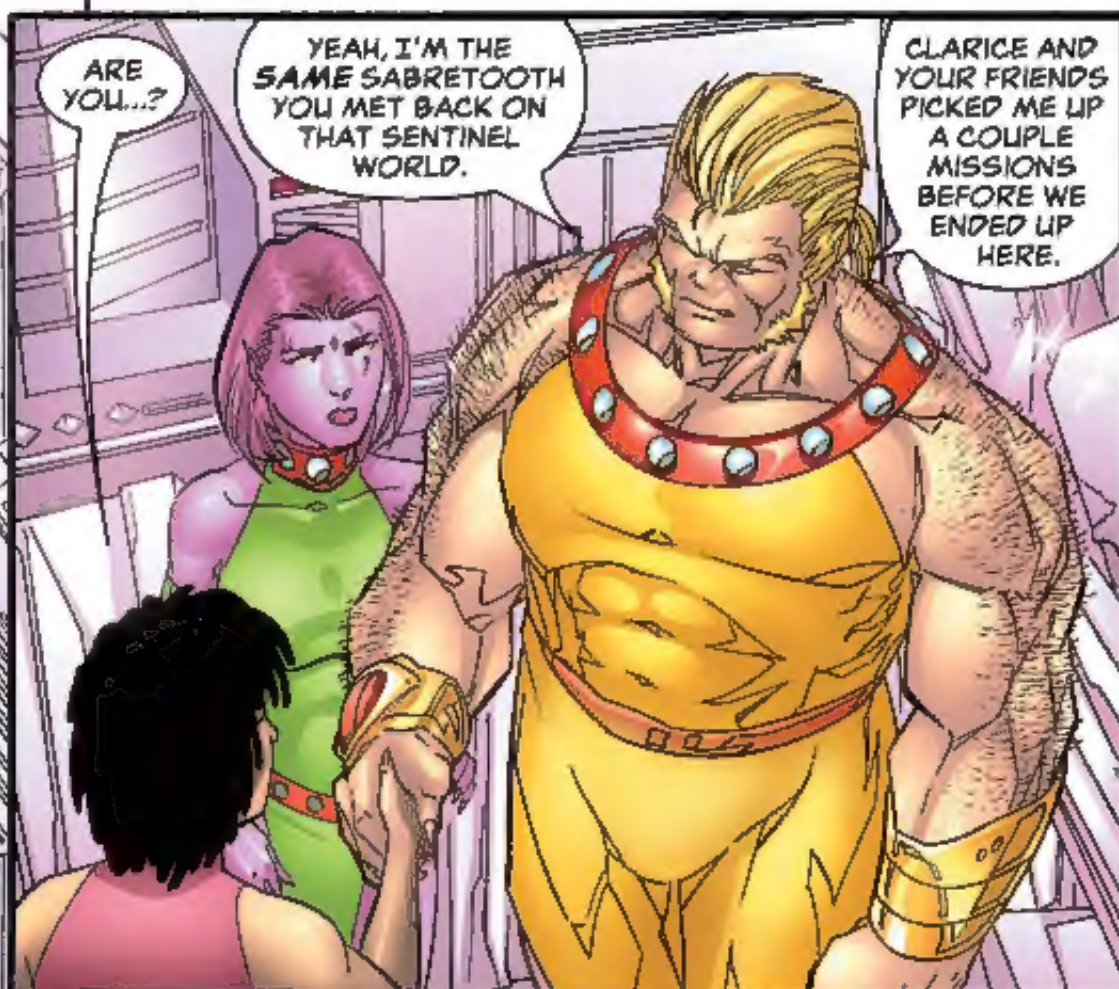
THAT MIGHT NOT BE ABNORMAL, BLINK, CONSIDERING HIS PHYSIOLOGY.



NAMORA.

YEAH.
NAMORA.

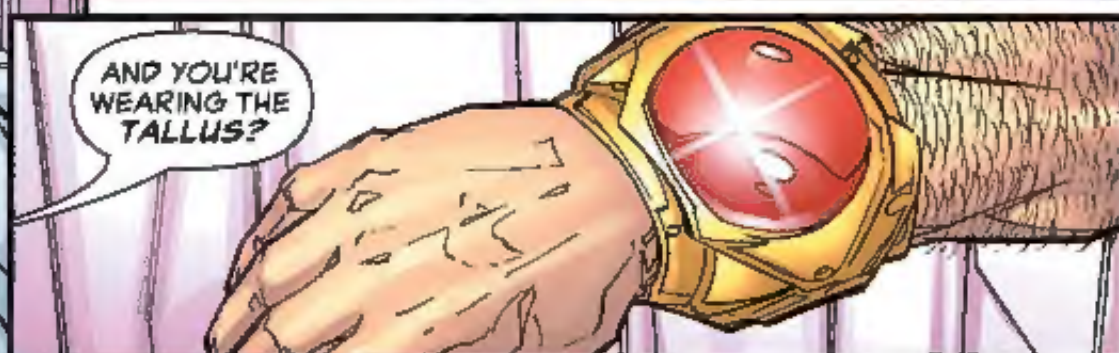
SHE WENT
DOWN FIGHTIN',
THOUGH. GOTTA
FIGURE A WARRIOR-
QUEEN LIKE HER
WOULDN'TA HAD IT
ANY OTHER
WAY.



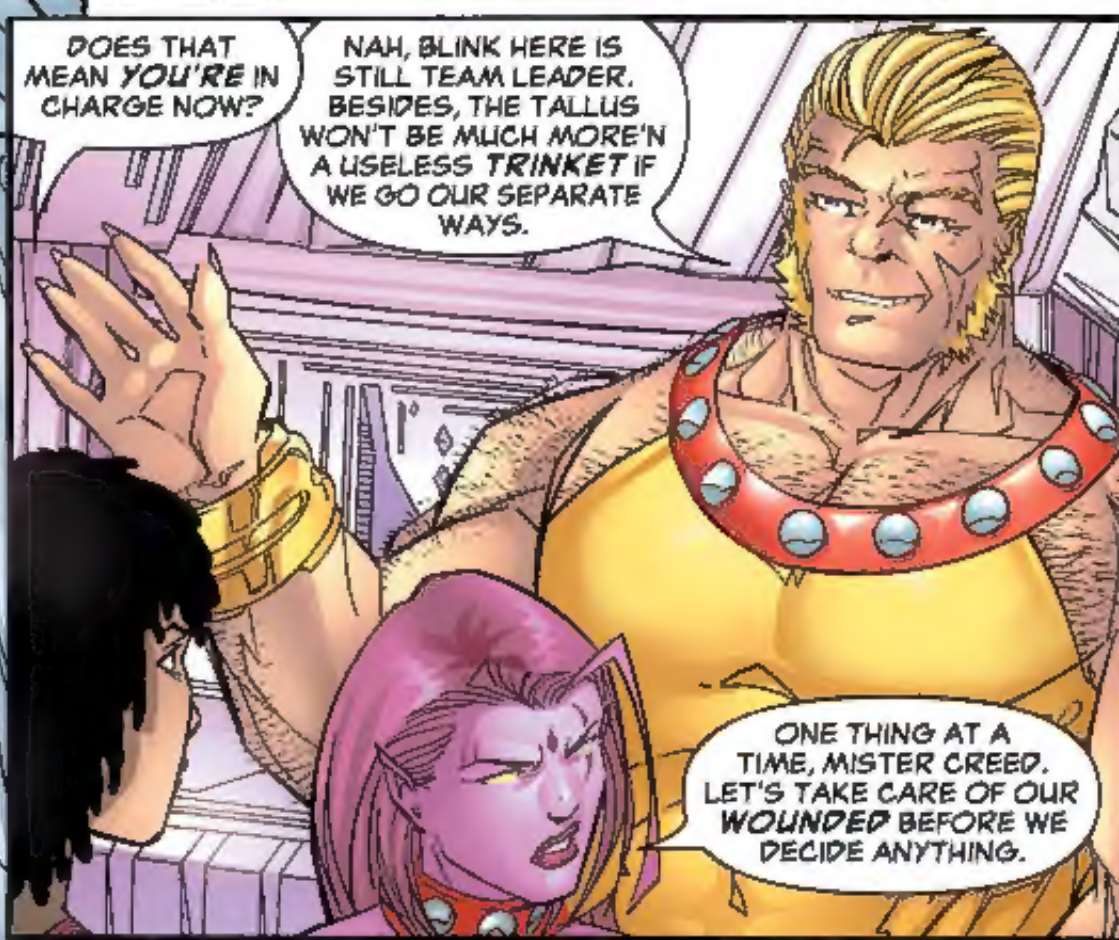
ARE
YOU...?

YEAH, I'M THE
SAME SABRETOOTH
YOU MET BACK ON
THAT SENTINEL
WORLD.

CLARICE AND
YOUR FRIENDS
PICKED ME UP
A COUPLE
MISSIONS
BEFORE WE
ENDED UP
HERE.



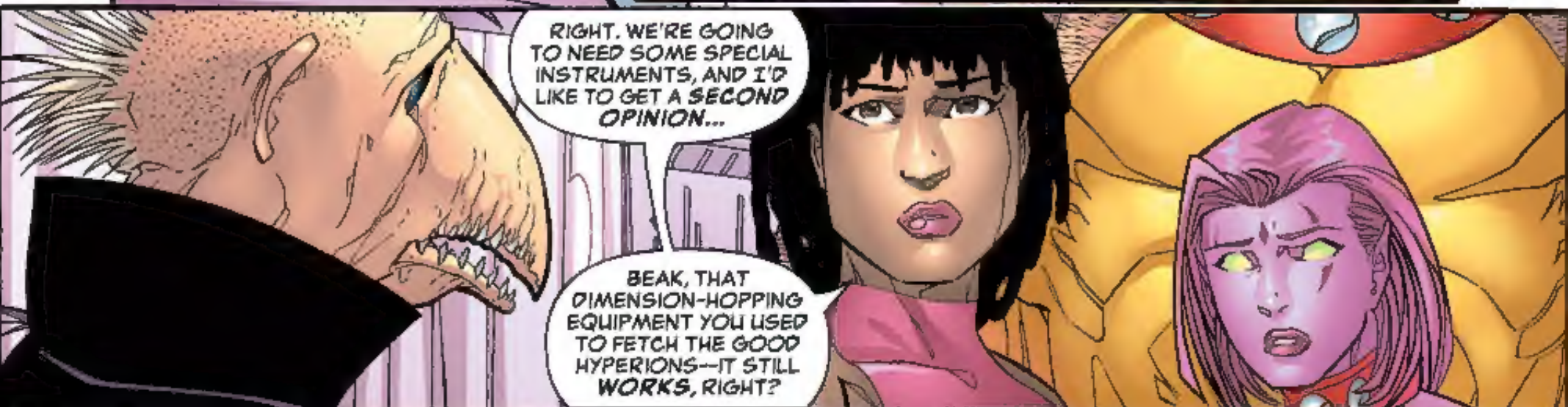
AND YOU'RE
WEARING THE
TALLUS?



DOES THAT
MEAN YOU'RE IN
CHARGE NOW?

NAH, BLINK HERE IS
STILL TEAM LEADER.
BESIDES, THE TALLUS
WON'T BE MUCH MORE'N
A USELESS TRINKET IF
WE GO OUR SEPARATE
WAYS.

ONE THING AT A
TIME, MISTER CREED.
LET'S TAKE CARE OF OUR
WOUNDED BEFORE WE
DECIDE ANYTHING.



RIGHT. WE'RE GOING
TO NEED SOME SPECIAL
INSTRUMENTS, AND I'D
LIKE TO GET A SECOND
OPINION...

BEAK, THAT
DIMENSION-HOPPING
EQUIPMENT YOU USED
TO FETCH THE GOOD
HYPERIONS--IT STILL
WORKS, RIGHT?



⊗ A UNIVERSE AWAY...

LOOKING GOOD, FOLKS. INCISION'S CLOSED AND THE PATIENT'S STABLE...

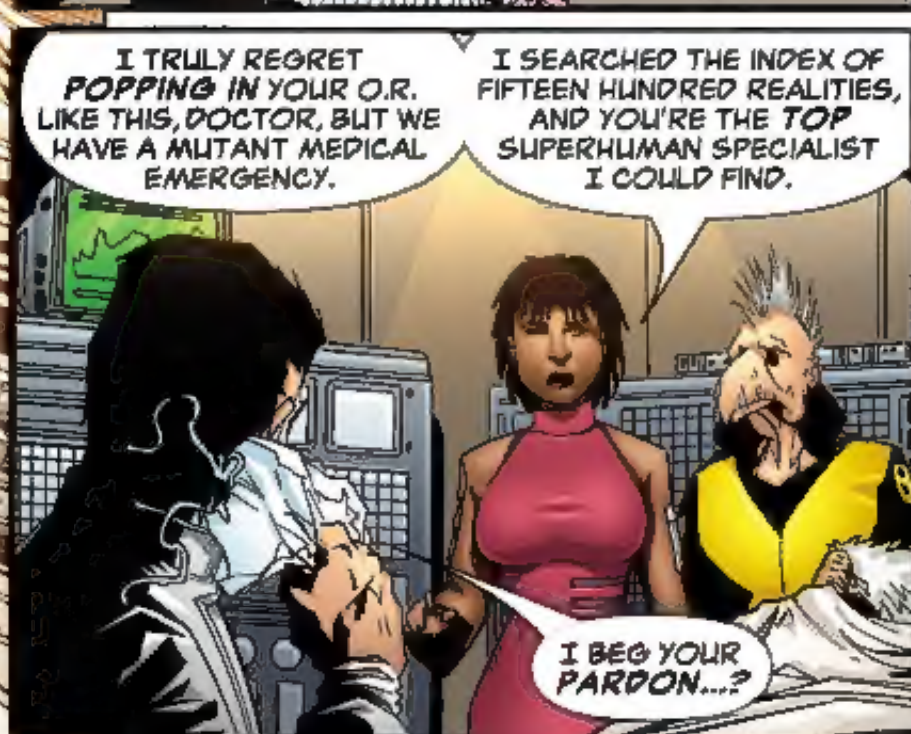


...WELL...AS STABLE AS THIS GUY EVER GETS...



I TRULY REGRET **POPPING** IN YOUR O.R. LIKE THIS, DOCTOR, BUT WE HAVE A MUTANT MEDICAL EMERGENCY.

I SEARCHED THE INDEX OF FIFTEEN HUNDRED REALITIES, AND YOU'RE THE TOP SUPERHUMAN SPECIALIST I COULD FIND.



I BEG YOUR PARDON...?



I AM ADDRESSING DOCTOR STEPHEN STRANGE, AM I NOT?

GO ON...

SOON...

THAT'S IT, DOCTOR HUDSON--I'VE RUN THE FULL BATTERY OF TESTS.

THERE'S SOME MITOCHONDRIAL ACTIVITY, BUT THE OVERALL CELLULAR DORMANCY SEEMS INDUCED BY THE SHOCK OF THERMAL DISRUPTION.

I THINK IF WE REMOVE THE CARBONIZED TISSUE, YOUR FRIEND MORPH SHOULD BEGIN TO HEAL ON HIS OWN.

OF COURSE, I'D RECOMMEND A CORTICAL STIMULATOR TO SPEED RECOVERY. WE CAN RETRIEVE ONE FROM MY OFFICE IF YOU'D LIKE?

SO... YOU'RE ALSO A METAMORPH?

SORT OF. I USED TO TURN INTO A GIANT, HAIRY MONSTER, BUT I'VE LOST THAT ABILITY PERMANENTLY--PROBABLY FOR THE BEST.

AND YOU'RE JUST A MEDICAL DOCTOR? NO...MYSTICAL EXPERTISE?

"MYSTICAL"...

YOU EVER BEEN TO TIBET?

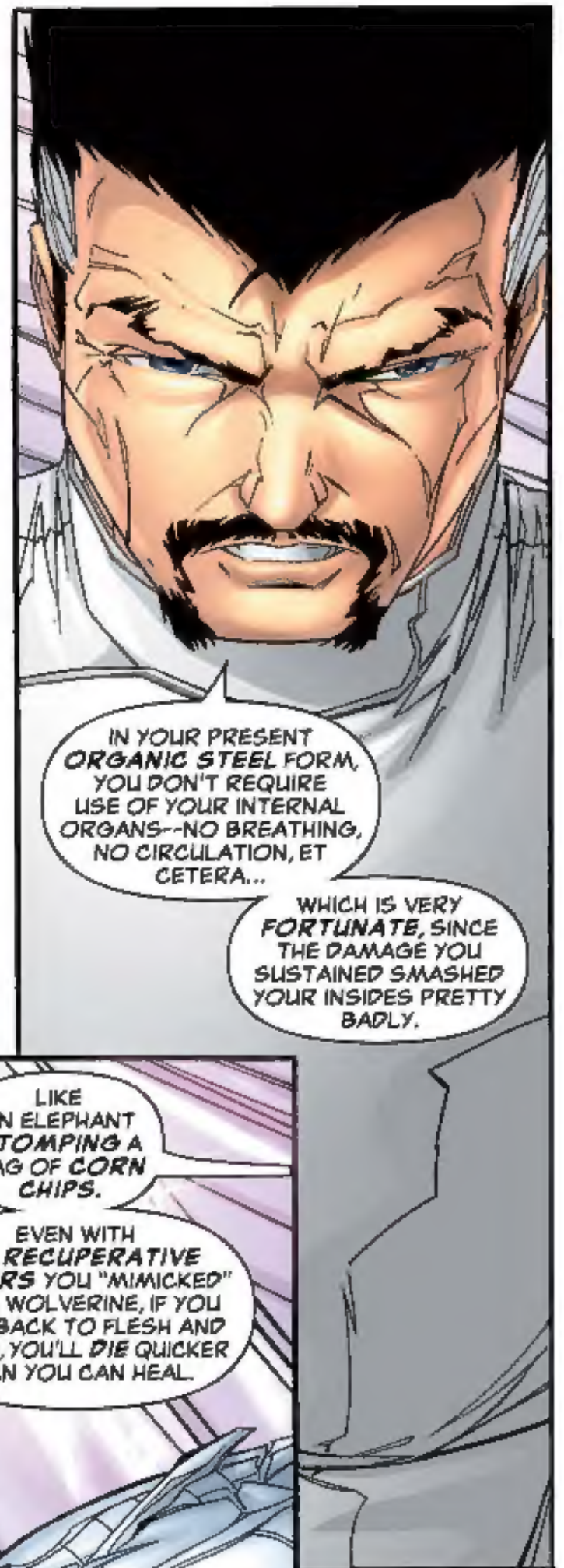
NO. CANCELLED A VACATION THERE ONCE.

Ah.



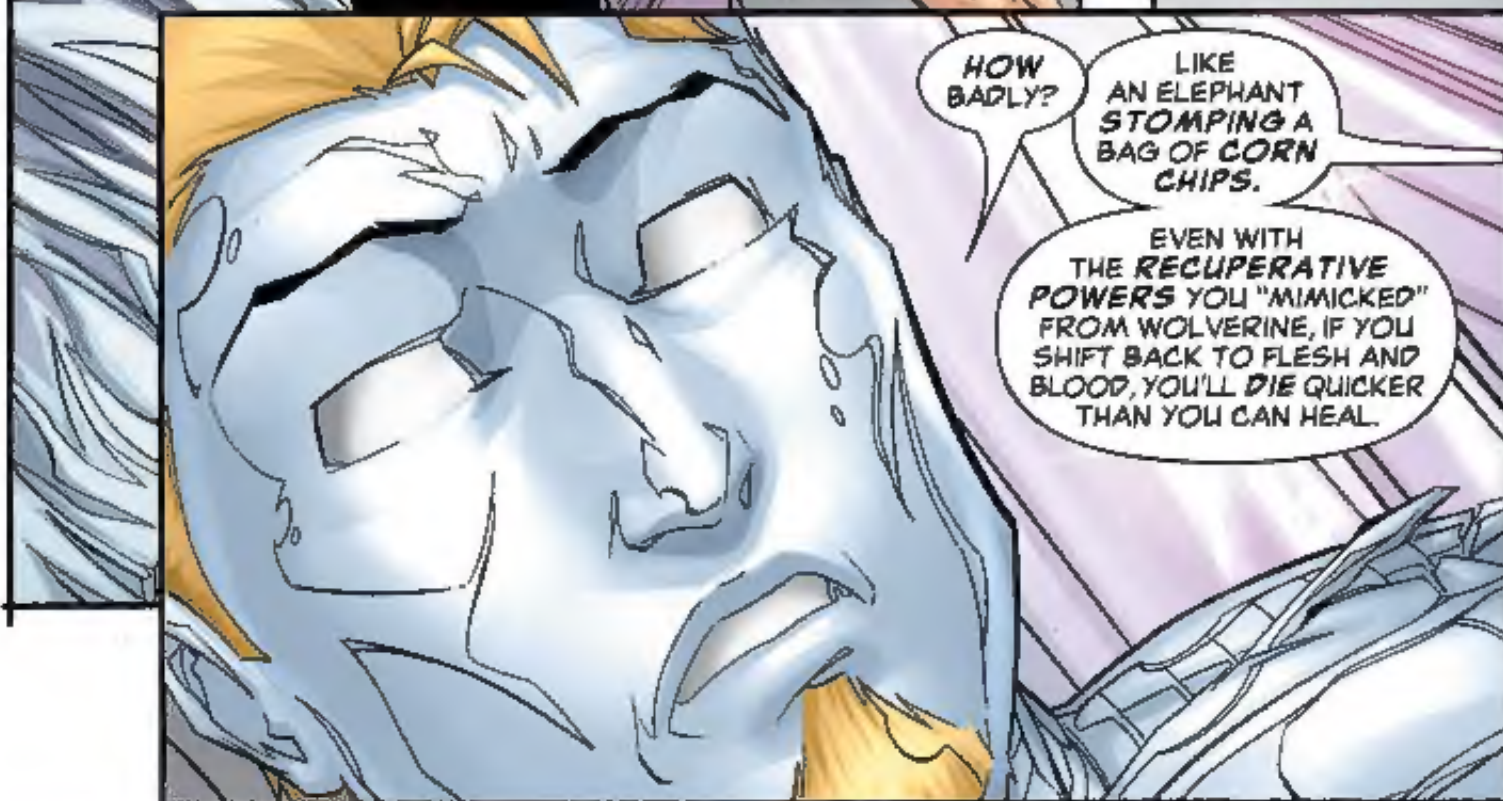
SOUNDS LIKE YOU GUYS CAN FIX UP MORPH. WHAT'S MY PROGNOSIS?

HONESTLY, MISTER RANKIN, YOUR CASE IS A BIT TRICKIER.



IN YOUR PRESENT **ORGANIC STEEL** FORM, YOU DON'T REQUIRE USE OF YOUR INTERNAL ORGANS--NO BREATHING, NO CIRCULATION, ET CETERA...

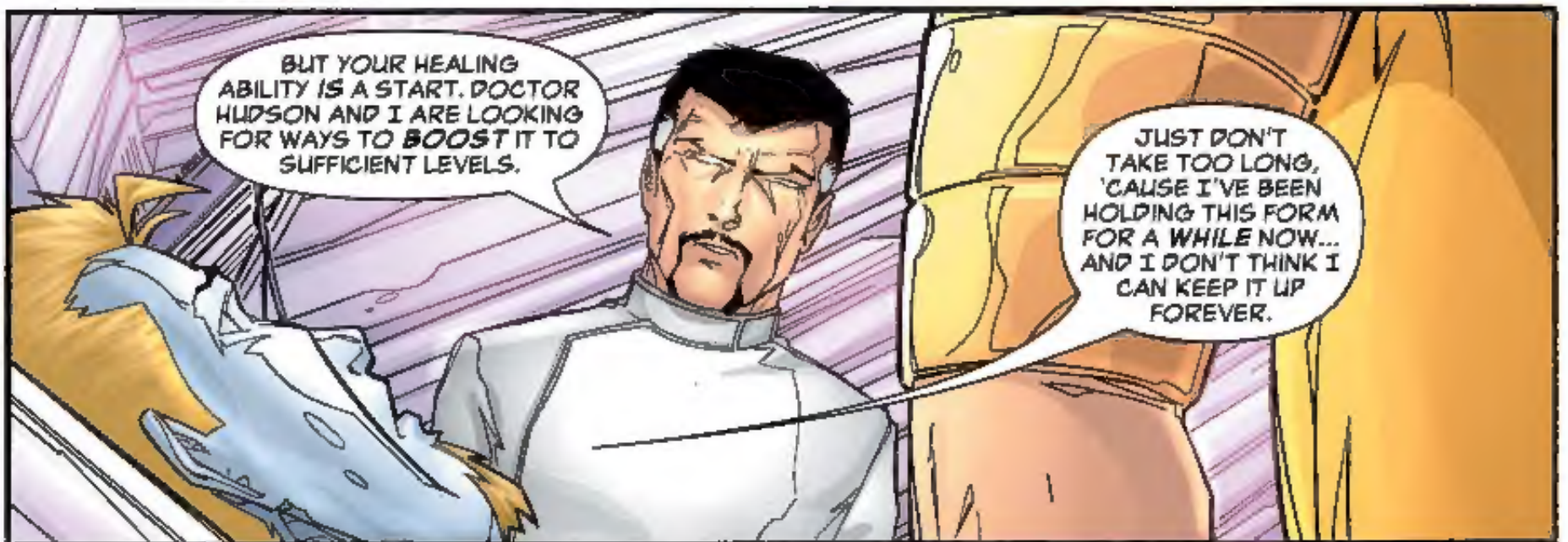
WHICH IS VERY **FORTUNATE**, SINCE THE DAMAGE YOU SUSTAINED SMASHED YOUR INSIDES PRETTY BADLY.



HOW BADLY?

LIKE AN ELEPHANT STOMPING A BAG OF CORN CHIPS.

EVEN WITH THE **RECUPERATIVE POWERS** YOU "MIMICKED" FROM WOLVERINE, IF YOU SHIFT BACK TO FLESH AND BLOOD, YOU'LL **DIE** QUICKER THAN YOU CAN HEAL.



BUT YOUR HEALING ABILITY IS A START. DOCTOR HUDSON AND I ARE LOOKING FOR WAYS TO **BOOST** IT TO SUFFICIENT LEVELS.

JUST DON'T TAKE TOO LONG, 'CAUSE I'VE BEEN HOLDING THIS FORM FOR A WHILE NOW... AND I DON'T THINK I CAN KEEP IT UP FOREVER.

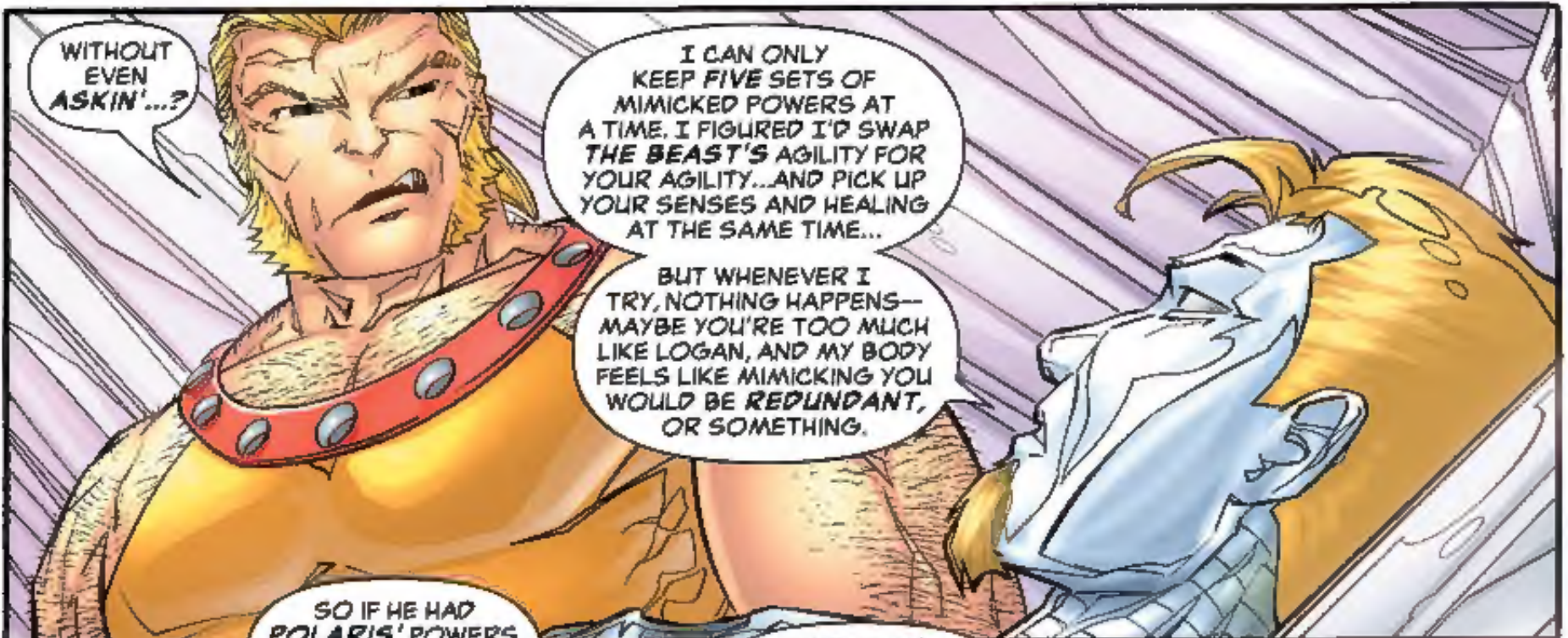


WHAT IF HE MIMICKED ME? ADD MY HEALING FACTOR TO WHAT HE'S ALREADY GOT, AND MAYBE IT'LL BE ENOUGH.



I'M SURPRISED YOU'RE VOLUNTEERING, SABRETOOTH. WE HAVEN'T EXACTLY GOTTEN ALONG SINCE YOU JOINED THE TEAM.

ANYWAY, IT WON'T WORK. I'VE ACTUALLY BEEN TRYING TO MIMIC YOUR ABILITIES FOR DAYS NOW...



WITHOUT EVEN ASKIN'...?

I CAN ONLY KEEP FIVE SETS OF MIMICKED POWERS AT A TIME. I FIGURED I'D SWAP THE BEAST'S AGILITY FOR YOUR AGILITY...AND PICK UP YOUR SENSES AND HEALING AT THE SAME TIME...

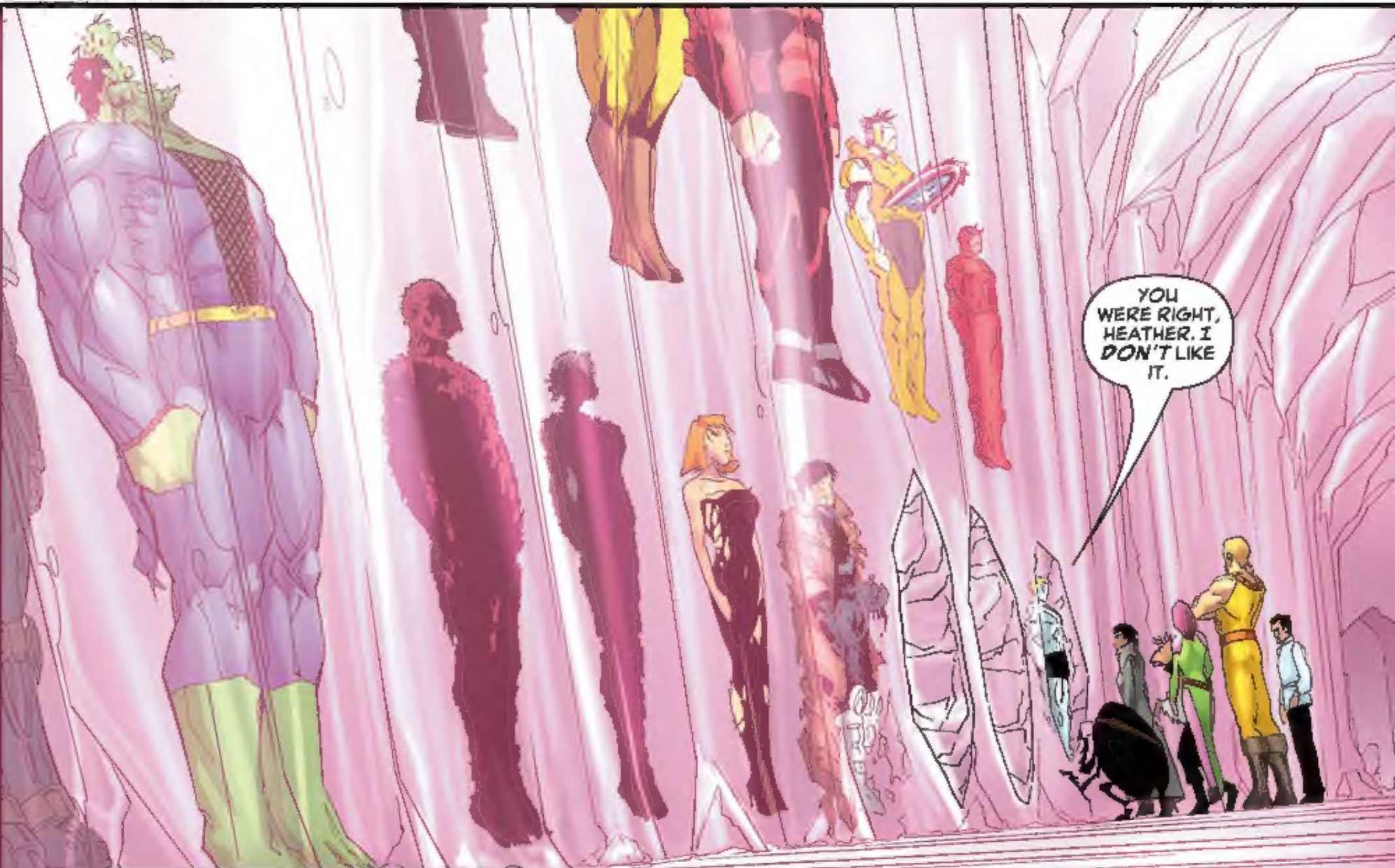
BUT WHENEVER I TRY, NOTHING HAPPENS—MAYBE YOU'RE TOO MUCH LIKE LOGAN, AND MY BODY FEELS LIKE MIMICKING YOU WOULD BE REDUNDANT, OR SOMETHING.

SO IF HE HAD POLARIS' POWERS, WOULD THAT MEAN HE COULDN'T MIMIC MAGNETO?

THIS IS ALL VERY FASCINATING, BUT CAL NEEDS HELP RIGHT NOW.



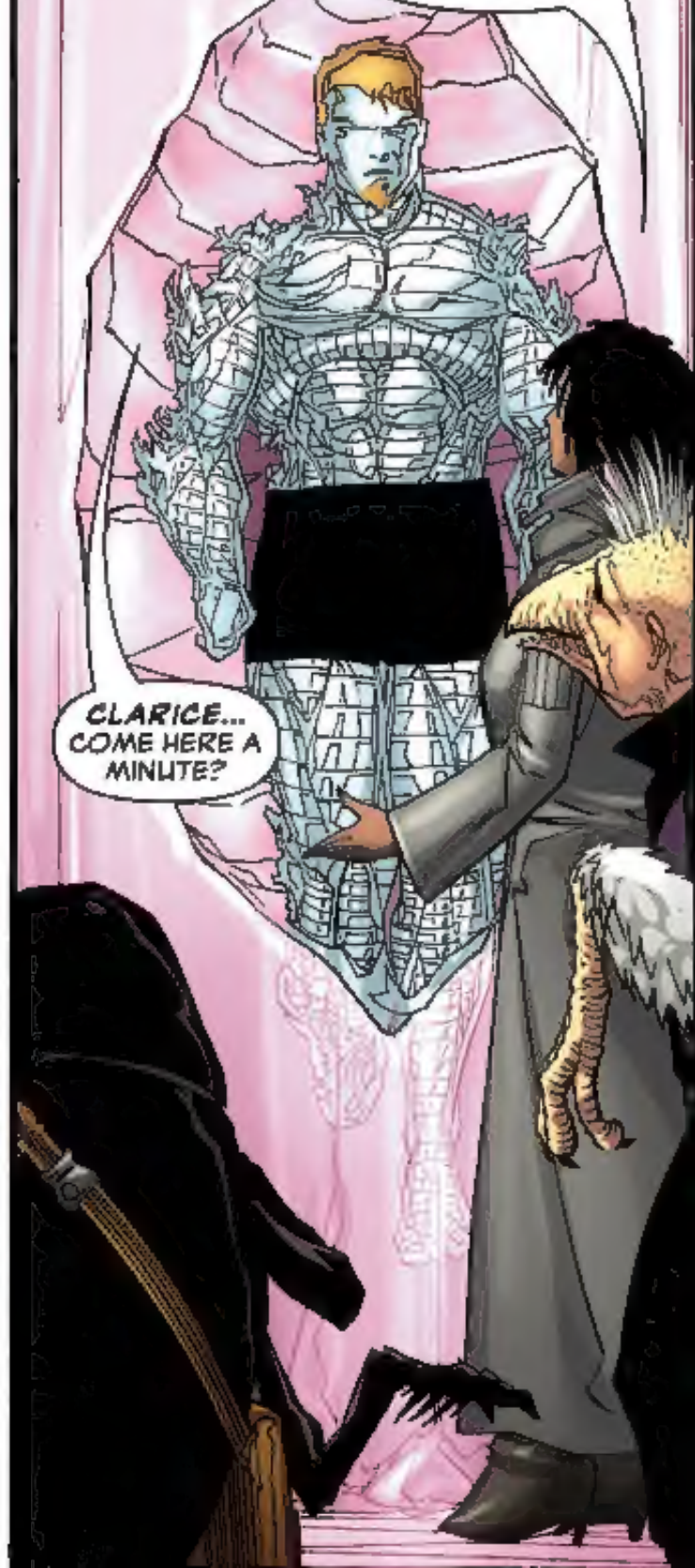
MIMIC...I THINK I KNOW HOW TO BUY YOU SOME TIME WHILE WE SEARCH FOR A TREATMENT, BUT YOU WON'T LIKE IT...



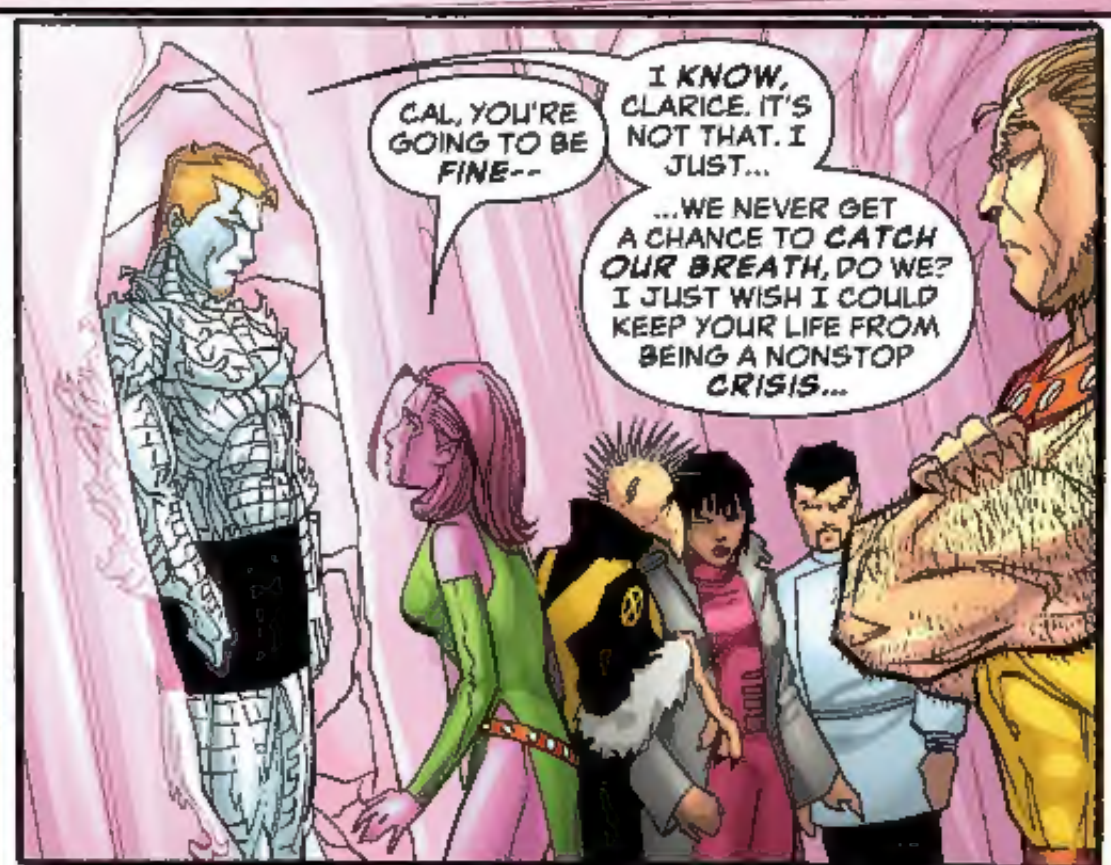
YOU WERE RIGHT, HEATHER. I DON'T LIKE IT.

I KNOW, CAL, BUT IN STASIS, YOU CAN REMAIN METALLIC INDEFINITELY.

ONCE WE FIND SOMEONE WITH A HEALING FACTOR YOU CAN MIMIC, WE'LL BRING THEM HERE AND WAKE YOU UP, OKAY?



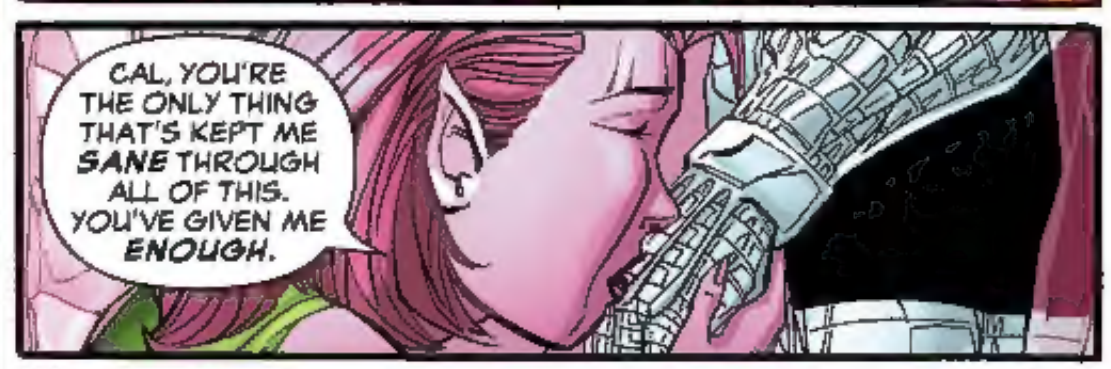
CLARICE... COME HERE A MINUTE?



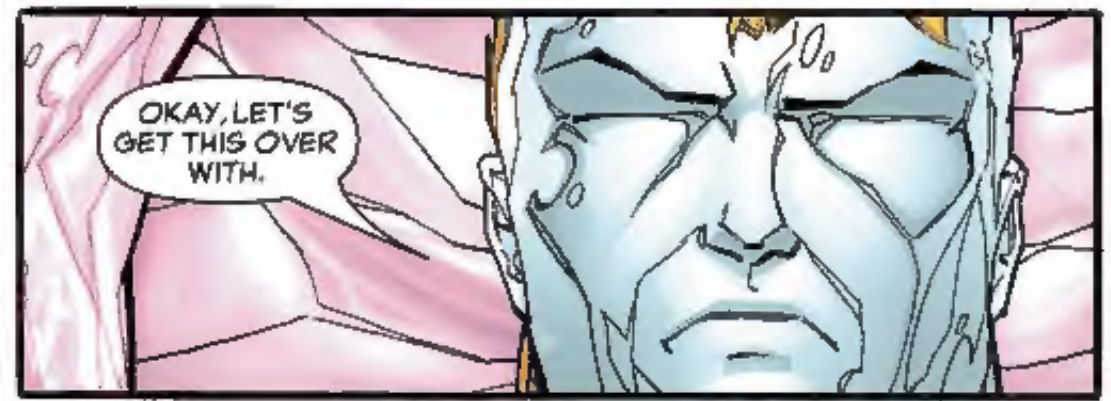
CAL, YOU'RE GOING TO BE FINE--

I KNOW, CLARICE. IT'S NOT THAT. I JUST...

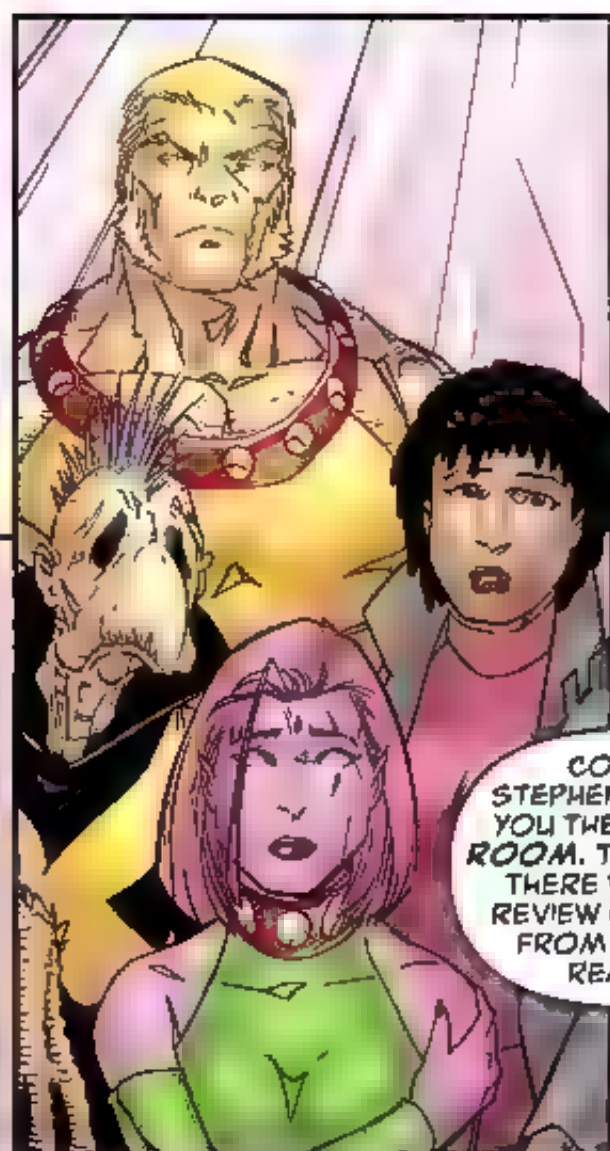
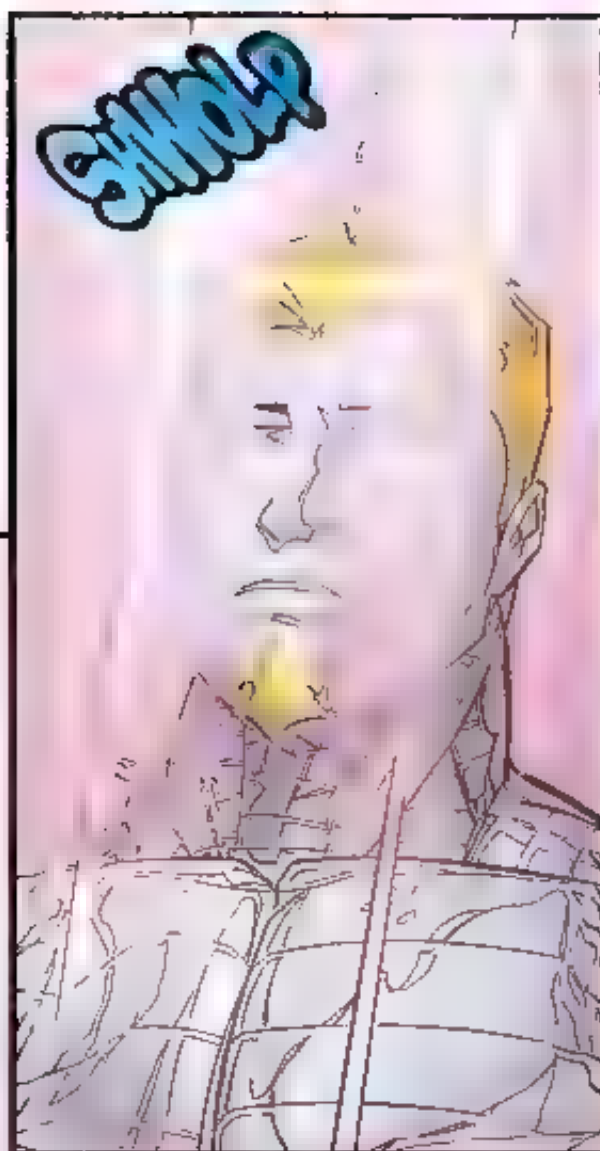
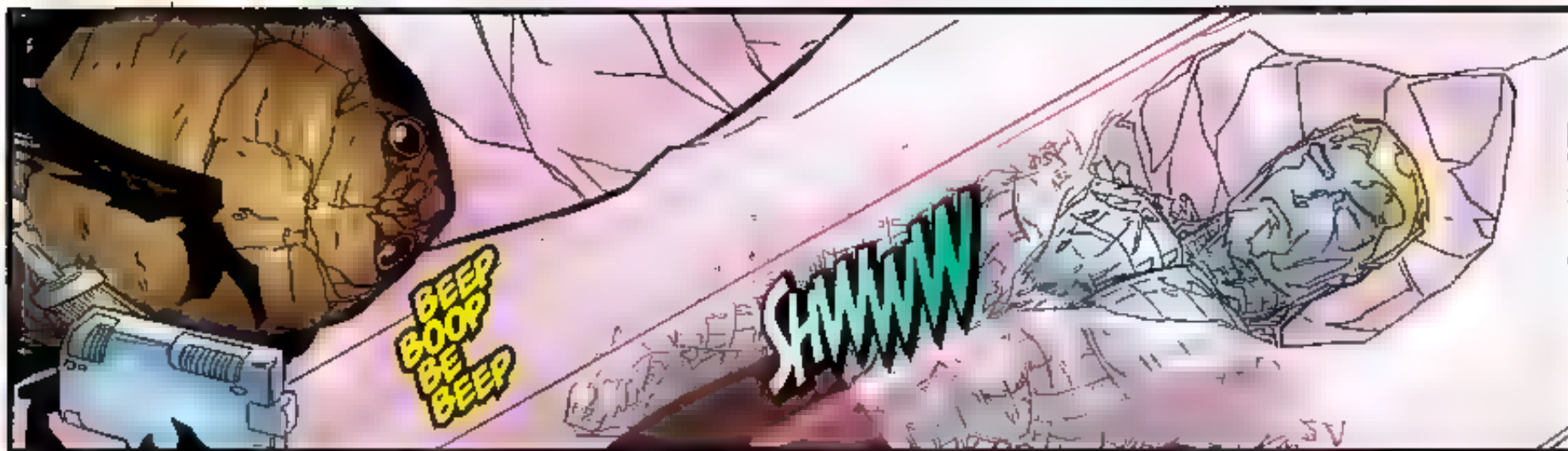
...WE NEVER GET A CHANCE TO CATCH OUR BREATH, DO WE? I JUST WISH I COULD KEEP YOUR LIFE FROM BEING A NONSTOP CRISIS...



CAL, YOU'RE THE ONLY THING THAT'S KEPT ME SANE THROUGH ALL OF THIS. YOU'VE GIVEN ME ENOUGH.



OKAY, LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH.



BACK IN MY HOME REALITY--OR DIMENSION, OR WHATEVER YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO SAY-- I KEPT A DATABASE OF KNOWN SUPERHUMANS WITH FAST-HEALING ABILITIES.

SHOW ME A GOOD PRACTITIONER OF META-MEDICINE WHO DOESN'T.

MINE LISTED MY EX-HUSBAND, WOLVERINE, ALONG WITH THE GREEN GOBLIN, THE RED SKULL, BLACKHEART, MISTER SINISTER...

I HAVEN'T ENCOUNTERED ANYONE LIKE YOUR MIMIC IN MY, UH, WORLD...



⊗ FIVE HOURS LATER

THERE'S BILLIONS OF REALITIES OUT THERE. HOW CAN YOU BEGIN TO SIFT THROUGH THEM ALL?

I HELPED THE TIMEBREAKERS UPGRADE THE SEARCH ENGINE ON THEIR TEMPORAL SCANNERS. THEY'RE SMART LITTLE BUGGERS, BUT THEY'RE NOT GREAT INNOVATORS.

I COMPLETED MORPH'S OPERATION HAD TO REMOVE TEN PERCENT OF HIS TISSUES, BUT HE'S ALREADY STARTING TO REGENERATE.

HOW'S THE SEARCH GOING FOR M.MIC'S DONOR?

I THINK I'VE NARROWED IT DOWN TO THREE FINALISTS...

"ON THIS WORLD, THE SUPER-SOLDIER SERUM GAVE THE RED SKULL INSTANT HEALING ABILITIES.

"BUT THE SERUM IS RUNNING THROUGH HIS VEINS, AND WE'D HAVE TO GET PAST HIS COSMIC CUBE TO TAKE A BLOOD SAMPLE

"THIS MISTER SINISTER IS NEARLY AS RESILIENT, BUT CAL WOULD NEED TO SPEND HOURS IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO MIMIC HIS POWER

"THAT'S A PRETTY HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT TO SEND CAL TO, AND I'M NOT TOO KEEN ON BRINGING SOMEONE LIKE SINISTER HERE..."

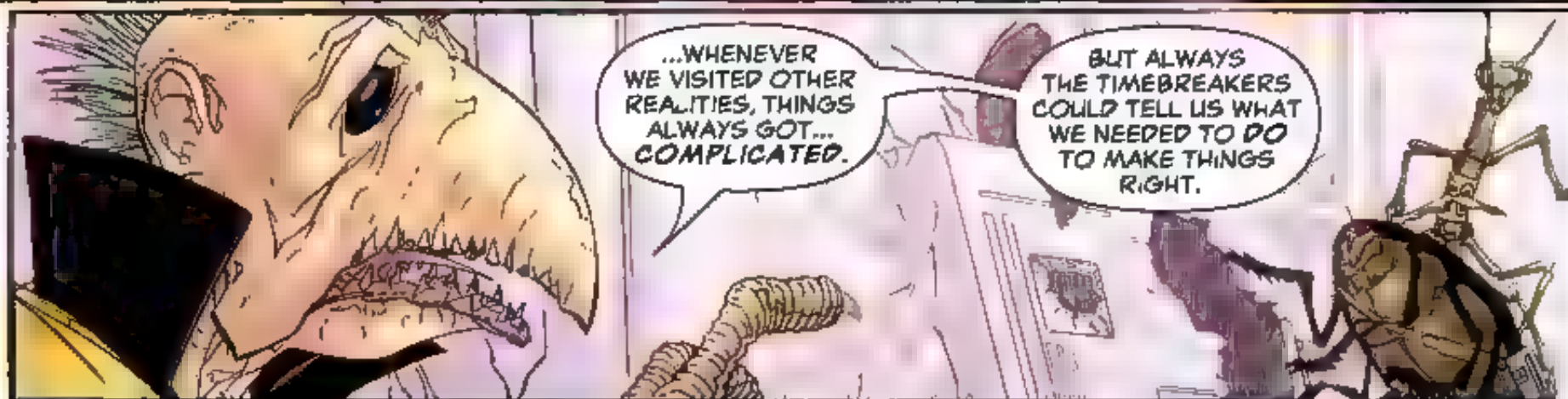
"FINALLY, THERE'S DOCTOR CURT CONNORS, WHOSE ATTEMPTS TO RESTORE HIS SEVERED ARM USUALLY TURN HIM INTO AN OVERGROWN LIZARD. IN THIS REALITY, CONNORS HEALING FORMULA WORKED."

"NOW HE LEADS A 'SCIENCE SQUAD,' BATTLING THE GIANT MONSTERS THAT PLAGUE HIS WORLD"

LOOKS LIKE THE LIZARD-GUY IS THE WAY TO GO

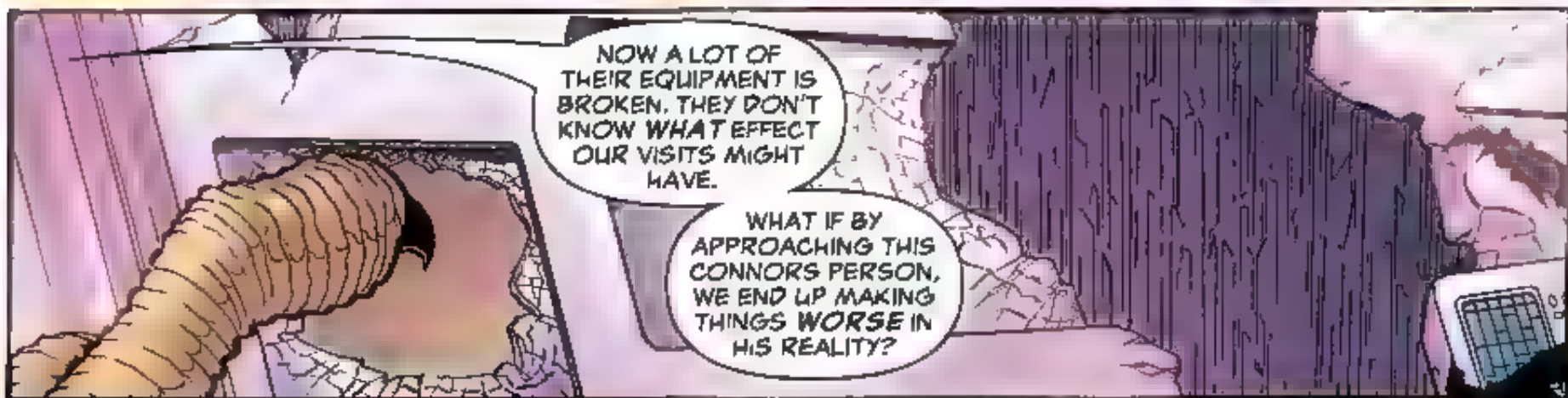
I THINK SO, TOO.

EXCEPT FOR ONE BIG PROBLEM THAT NO ONE WANTS TO BRING UP...



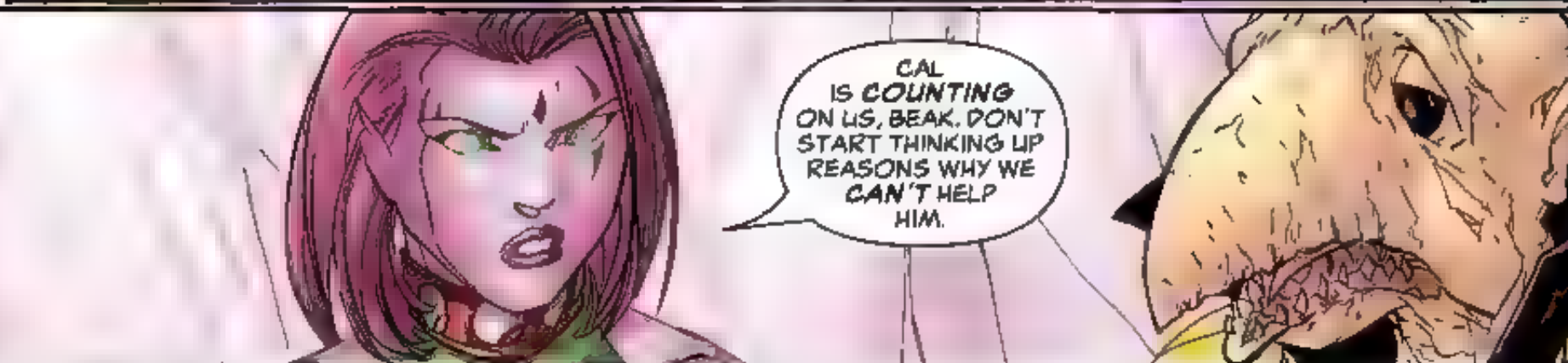
...WHENEVER WE VISITED OTHER REALITIES, THINGS ALWAYS GOT... COMPLICATED.

BUT ALWAYS THE TIMEBREAKERS COULD TELL US WHAT WE NEEDED TO DO TO MAKE THINGS RIGHT.

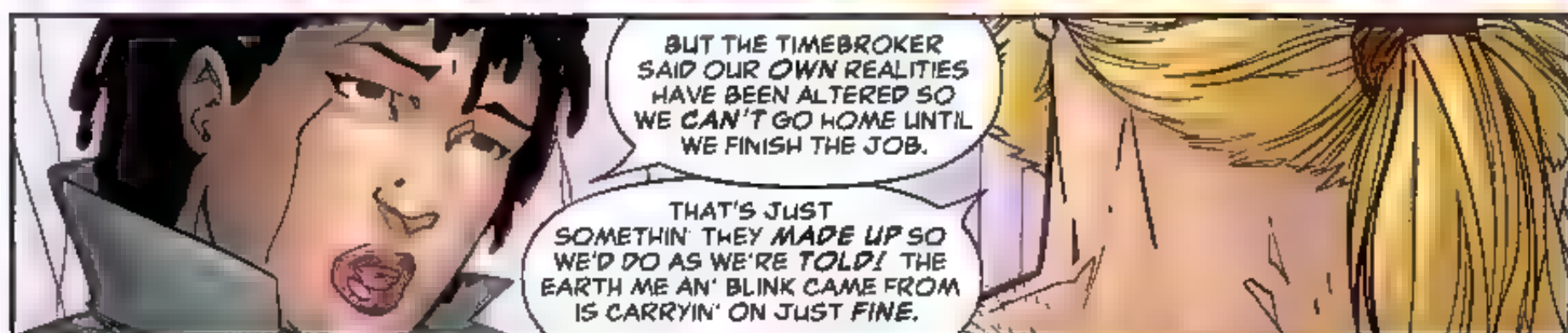
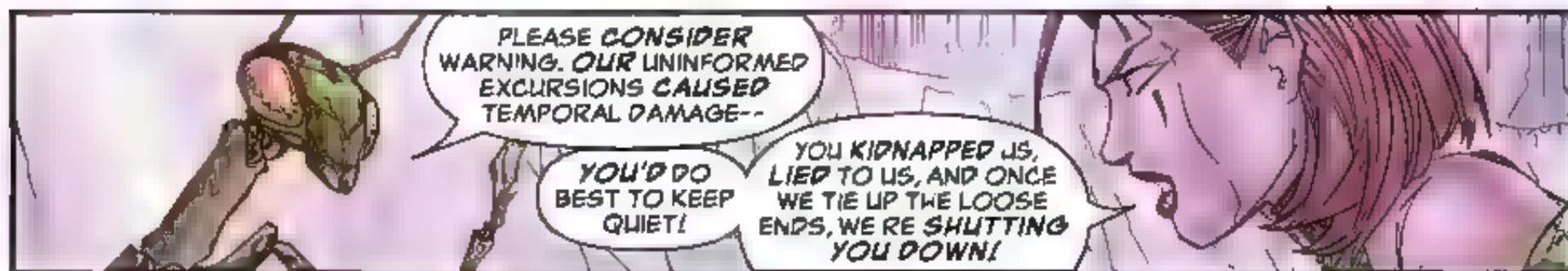


NOW A LOT OF THEIR EQUIPMENT IS BROKEN. THEY DON'T KNOW WHAT EFFECT OUR VISITS MIGHT HAVE.

WHAT IF BY APPROACHING THIS CONNORS PERSON, WE END UP MAKING THINGS WORSE IN HIS REALITY?



CAL IS COUNTING ON US, BEAK. DON'T START THINKING UP REASONS WHY WE CAN'T HELP HIM.





OKAY...WHAT IF WE GO AND THEY JUST RECRUIT ANOTHER SET OF EXILES TO DO THE JOB?

THEN WE'LL MAKE THE TIMEBREAKERS GO HOME, TOO.

BUT IF WE LEAVE THIS PLACE ABANDONED, WHO KNOWS WHO MIGHT DISCOVER IT NEXT? WHAT IF THEY'RE WORSE THAN THE TIMEBREAKERS?

THEN WE DESTROY THIS PLACE.



WHAT WOULD THAT DO TO THE MULTIVERSE?

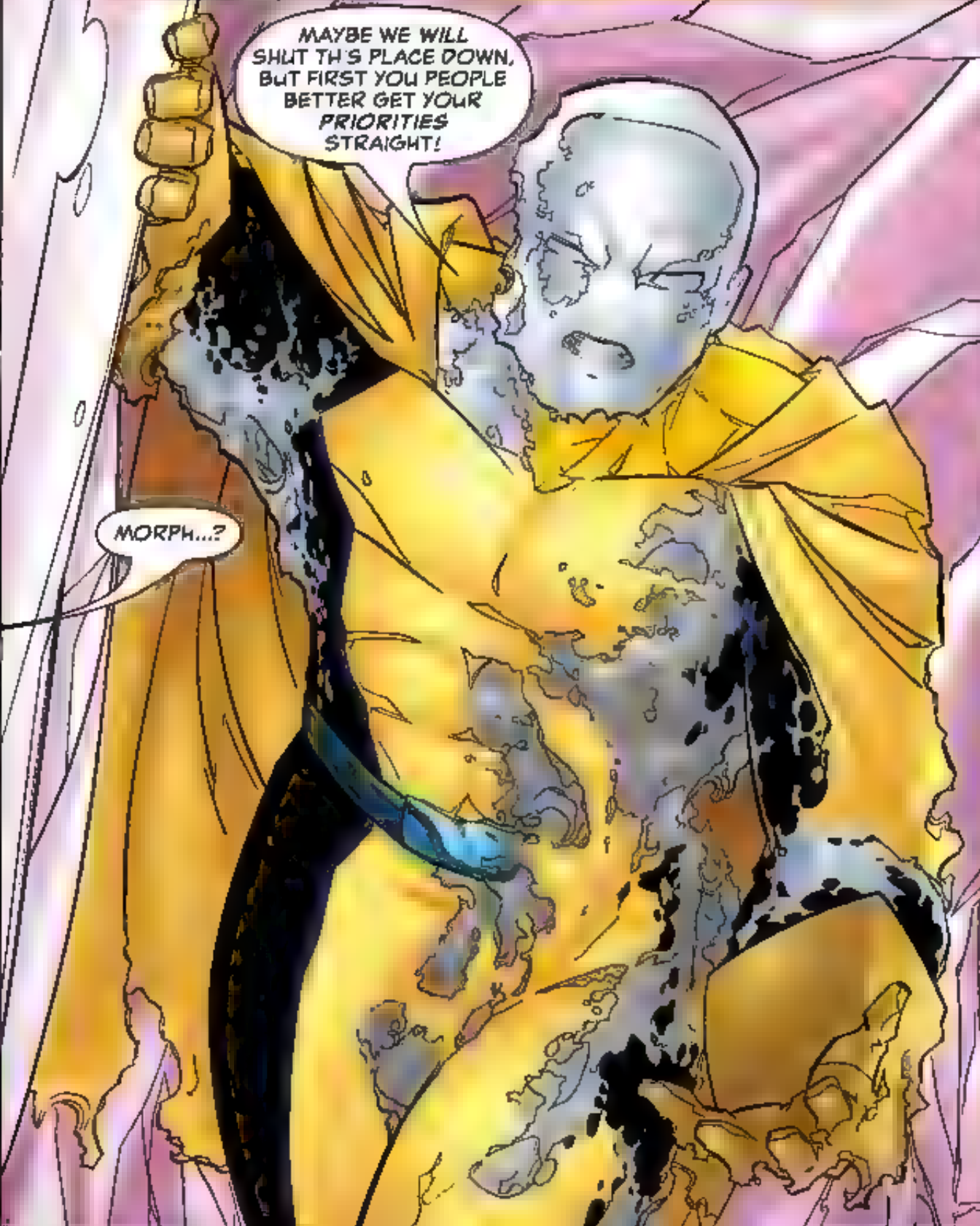
NOT TO MENTION THAT THIS OBSERVATORY IS A UNIQUE SCIENTIFIC RESOURCE.

A DANGEROUS SCIENTIFIC RESOURCE, YOU MEAN.



AND WHAT IF WHOEVER MADE THIS PLACE CAME BACK AND FOUND OUT WE'D DESTROYED IT? WHAT THEN?

WHY ARE YOU EVEN ARGUIN'?! DON'T YOU WANNA GO HOME?!



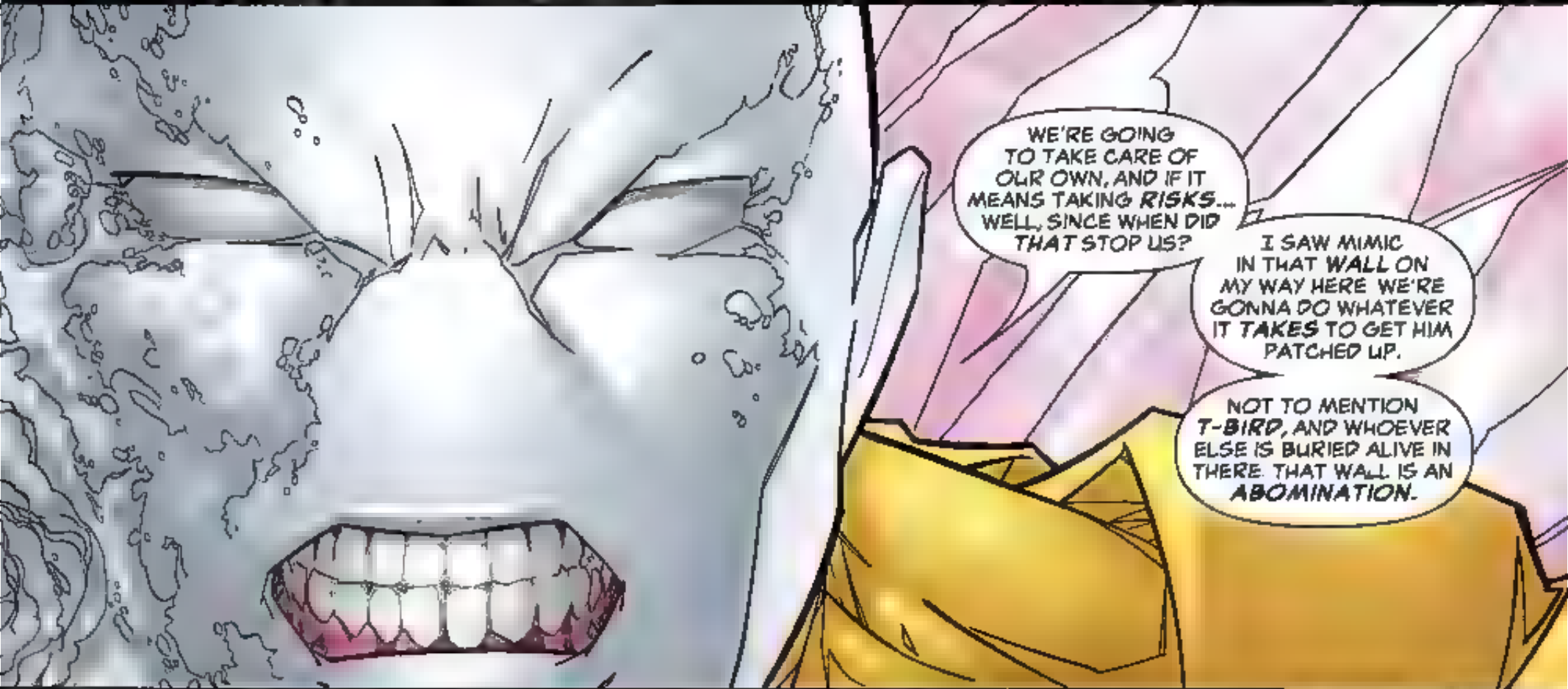
MAYBE WE WILL SHUT TH'S PLACE DOWN, BUT FIRST YOU PEOPLE BETTER GET YOUR PRIORITIES STRAIGHT!

MORPH...?



YOU SHOULD REST--

NO, HEATHER. THERE'S MORE IMPORTANT THINGS TO DO, AND I'M NOT GONNA MISS 'EM.



WE'RE GOING TO TAKE CARE OF OUR OWN, AND IF IT MEANS TAKING RISKS... WELL, SINCE WHEN DID THAT STOP US?

I SAW MIMIC IN THAT WALL ON MY WAY HERE WE'RE GONNA DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO GET HIM PATCHED UP.

NOT TO MENTION T-BIRD, AND WHOEVER ELSE IS BURIED ALIVE IN THERE THAT WALL IS AN ABOMINATION.



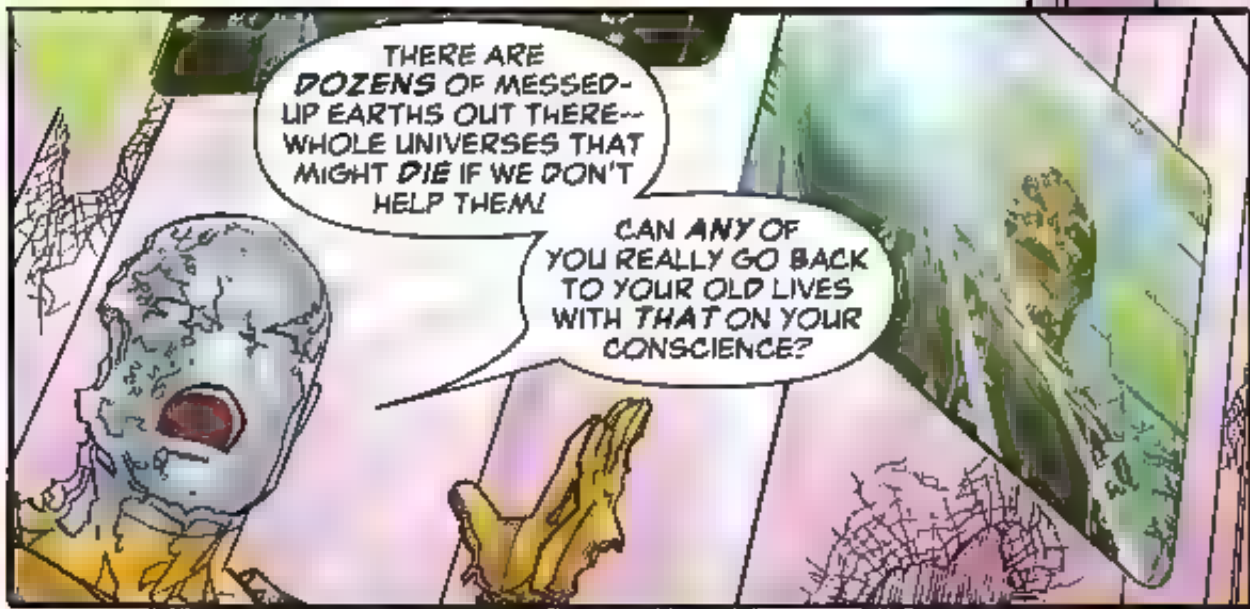
BEAK, WE'RE GONNA GET YOU BACK TOGETHER WITH YOUR WIFE AND KIDS.

WIFE AND KIDS?

HE GOT AN EARLY START

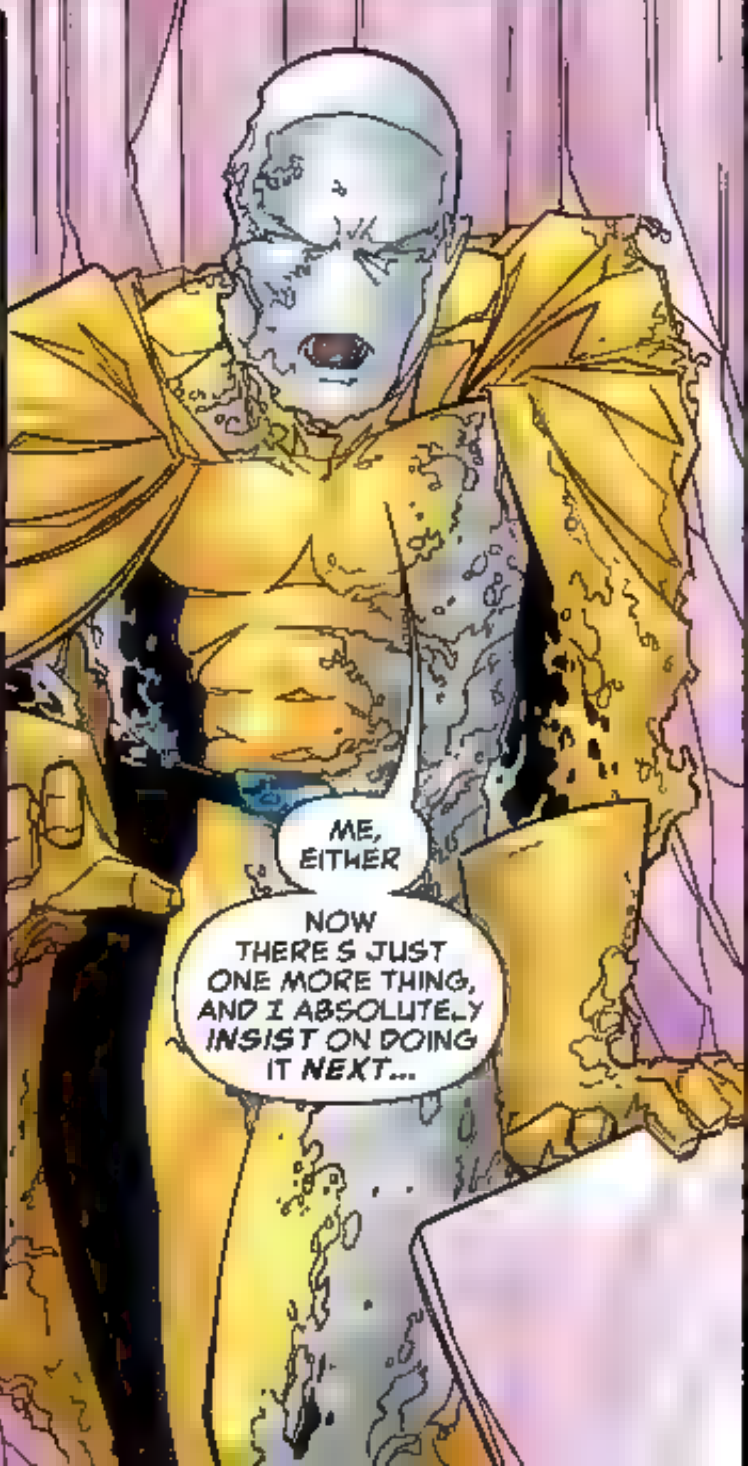
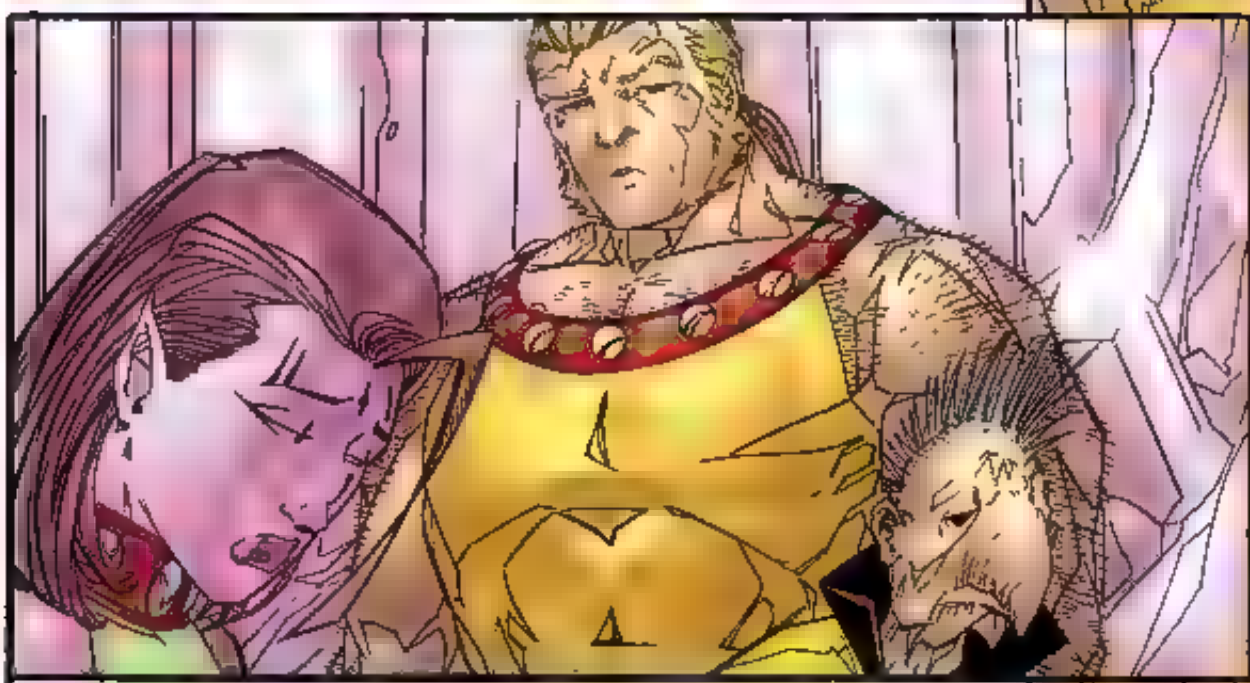


AND AS MUCH AS I'VE HATED THIS LIFE AND HATED YOU FOR FORCING US INTO IT, THERE'S A REASON I STAYED WITH THE TEAM WHEN I HAD A CHANCE TO GO HOME!



THERE ARE DOZENS OF MESSED-UP EARTHS OUT THERE-- WHOLE UNIVERSES THAT MIGHT DIE IF WE DON'T HELP THEM!

CAN ANY OF YOU REALLY GO BACK TO YOUR OLD LIVES WITH THAT ON YOUR CONSCIENCE?



ME, EITHER

NOW THERE'S JUST ONE MORE THING, AND I ABSOLUTELY INSIST ON DOING IT NEXT...

MARIKO YASHIDA
"SUNFIRE"
1980 - 2004

...ASHES
TO ASHES...

DUST
TO DUST.

AMEN

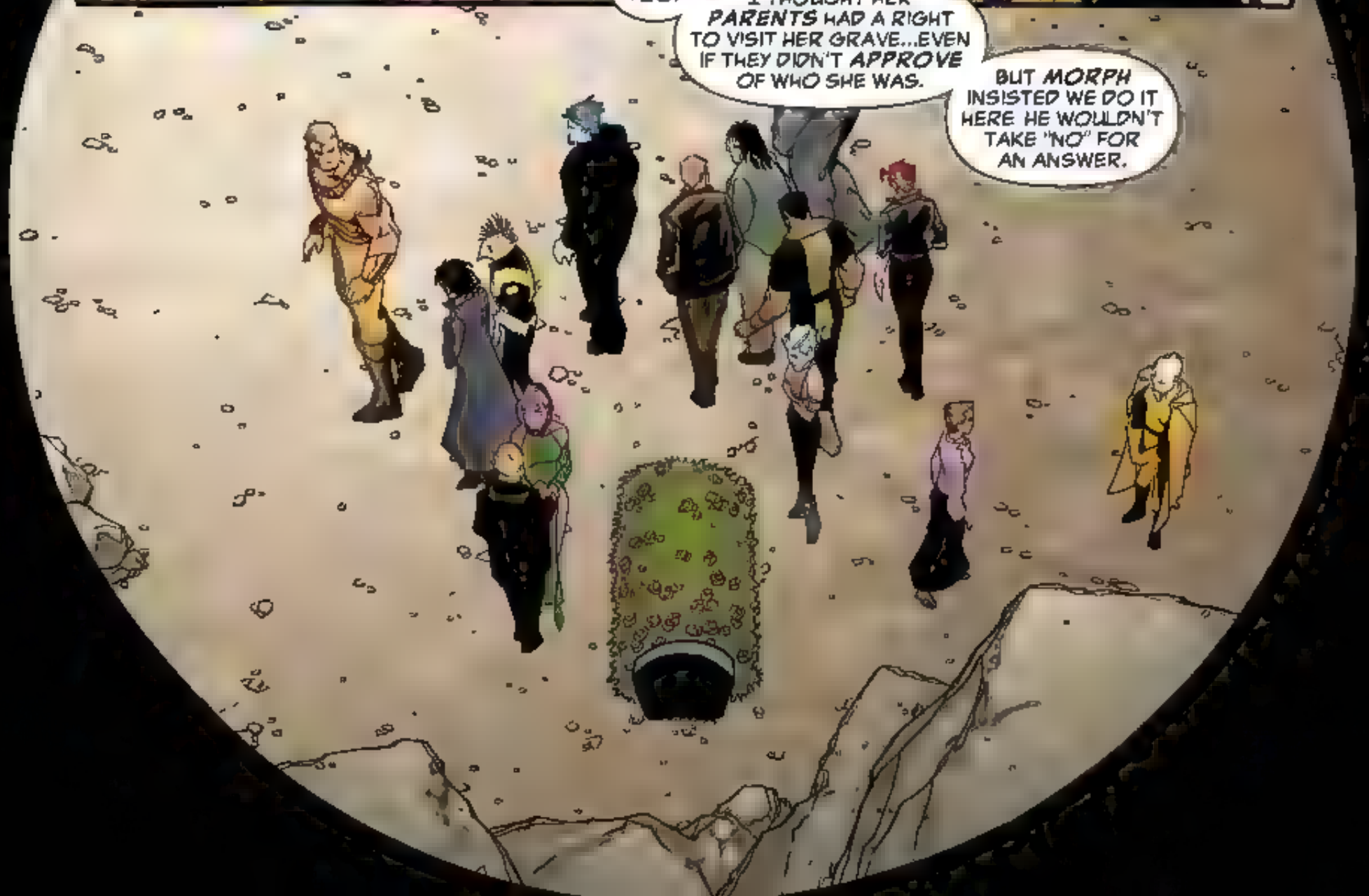
=SNFF=. I JUST
WANT TO THANK YOU
AGAIN FOR BRINGING
HER BACK HERE.

MUCH AS I LOVED
HER, IF IT WAS UP TO
ME, I'D'VE BURIED HER
IN THE REALITY WHERE
SHE WAS BORN.

ME,
TOO.

I THOUGHT HER
PARENTS HAD A RIGHT
TO VISIT HER GRAVE...EVEN
IF THEY DIDN'T APPROVE
OF WHO SHE WAS.

BUT MORPH
INSISTED WE DO IT
HERE HE WOULDN'T
TAKE "NO" FOR
AN ANSWER.



A FEW MONTHS AGO, WHEN YOU EXILES GOT SPLIT UP AND SENT TO SEPARATE REALITIES, MARIKO RETURNED HERE FOR A FEW WEEKS.

THIRTY-NINE DAYS, TO BE EXACT.

I KNOW, SPIDER-WOMAN

IT WAS A GIFT, THAT EXTRA TIME TOGETHER. SHE TOLD ME A LOT ABOUT HERSELF..

...AND SHE ALSO TOLD ME ABOUT YOUR FEELINGS FOR HER.

I'M SORRY...I DIDN'T MEAN ANYTHING BY IT. SHE JUST...I COULDN'T HELP IT

BUT THERE'S NO QUESTION--YOU WERE THE LOVE OF MARIKO'S LIFE.

AND YOU LOVED HER ENOUGH TO MAKE SURE SHE'D SPEND ETERNITY WITH ME.

THAT HAS TO BE THE MOST UNSELFISH THING I EVER HEARD OF.

IT'S A COMFORT, YOU KNOW. HAVING SOMEONE ELSE WHO LOVED HER...TO SHARE THE HURT.



⊗ ELSEWHERE...

SAKATA TO
SCIENCE SQUAD. SAT-
SCANS CONFIRM THAT
THE POWER SPIKE WE
DETECTED ORIGINATED
FROM THAT ATOLL
AHEAD OF YOU...

...BUT FOR SOME
REASON THE GPS
READINGS ON ITS
LOCATION KEEP
CHANGING. OVER.

COPY THAT,
SAKATA. OVER
AND OUT.

THIS WOULDN'T
BE THE FIRST TIME A
KAIJU WAS MISTAKEN
FOR AN ISLAND.
REMEMBER THE
LEVIATHAN CASE?

WELL, SURE, BUT
KRAKOA ATOLL IS AN
ISLAND. IT WAS FIRST
MAPPED IN THE
NINETEENTH
CENTURY.

THE U.S. EVEN
PERFORMED ATOMIC
TESTS THERE IN THE
FIFTIES.

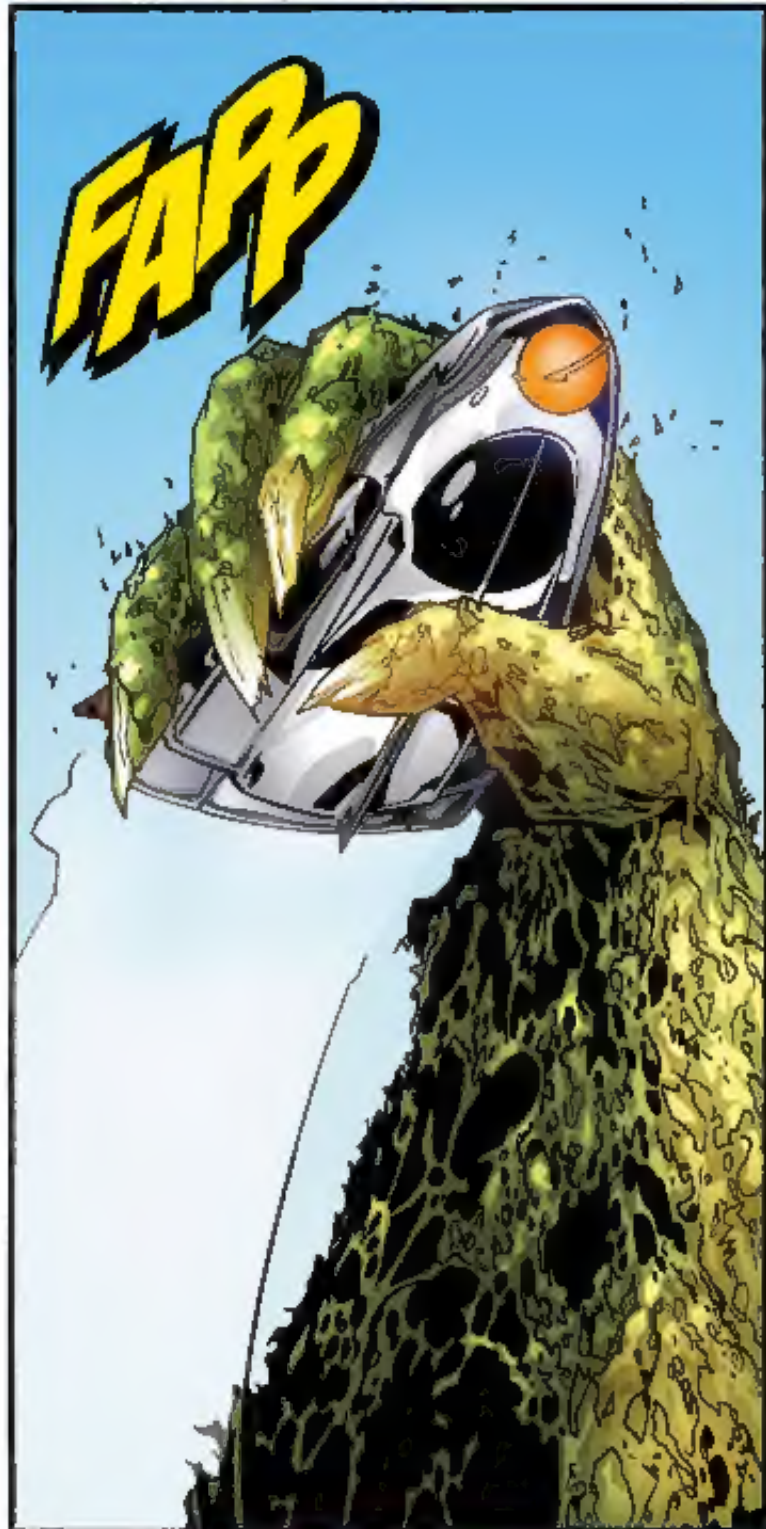
YOU WERE
SAYING...

COME
CLOSER,
LITTLE
THINGA...

FIRE
MISSILES!



COME CLOSER
AND FEED KRAKOA
THE ISLAND THAT
WALKS LIKE A MAN



BLOOOOINK

WHAT
HAPPENED?

SORRY TO
STARTLE YOU,
DOCTOR
CONNORS...

...WE'RE THE
EXILES, AND WE'RE
HERE TO HELP.

PYM

⊗ NEXT: THE DEADLY DOOM OF
FIN FANG FOOM!